

Creating named ranges with macros

In a macro, a named range is accessed, created, and deleted using the *NamedRanges* service of a Calc document. This service has a number of methods associated with it, the following of which are particularly useful for creating named ranges:

getByName(Name)

Returns the range or expression with the specified name.

getElementNames()

Returns an array of all named ranges in the current document.

hasByName(Name)

Returns a boolean: TRUE if a range with this name is in the current document, and FALSE otherwise.

addNewByName(Name, Content, Position, Type)

Adds a new named range to the current document. This method has four arguments:

- *Name* – A string that contains the name of the new range
- *Content* – A string that contains the range address or formula expression being named
- *Position* – The base address for relative cell references
- *Type* – A combination of flags that specify the type of named range being defined. These flags are listed in Table 19. This parameter defaults to zero for any common named range.

Table 19: *com.sun.star.sheet.NamedRangeFlag* constant group reference

Value	Name	Description
1	FILTER_CRITERIA	The range contains filter criteria.
2	PRINT_AREA	The range can be used as a print range.
4	COLUMN_HEADER	The range can be used as column headers for printing.
8	ROW_HEADER	The range can be used as row headers for printing.

As an example, the macro in Listing 17 uses the above methods to check if a range named *MyNRange* exists. If it does not exist, then the macro creates a range with the name and sets it to access the cell range B3:D6.

Listing 17: *AddNamedRange* creates a new named range that references *\$Sheet1.\$B\$3:\$D\$6*

```
Sub AddNamedRange()  
    Dim oRange      ' The created range.  
    Dim oRanges     ' All named ranges.  
    Dim sName$     ' Name of the named range to be created.  
    Dim oCell      ' Cell object.  
    Dim s$  
  
    sName$ = "MyNRange"  
    oRanges = ThisComponent.NamedRanges  
    If NOT oRanges.hasByName(sName$) Then  
        REM Setting the base address for relative cell references  
        Dim oCellAddress As new com.sun.star.table.CellAddress
```